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Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia

Payroll jobs and wages estimates, sourced from Single Touch Payroll (STP) data

Reference period Week ending 5 June 2021

Released 22/06/2021

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Key statistics

Between the weeks ending 22 May and 5 June 2021:

- Payroll jobs decreased by 0.9%
- Total wages paid decreased by 1.6%

Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia will change to a monthly release frequency in August 2021, see [Upcoming changes to this release \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-5-june-2021#upcoming-changes-to-this-release\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-5-june-2021#upcoming-changes-to-this-release) for more information.

Updated estimates of payroll jobs by industry subdivision were included in this release on 22 June 2021.

National

In the fortnight up to the week ending 5 June 2021:

- Payroll jobs decreased by 0.9%, compared to an increase of 0.4% in the previous fortnight
- Total wages paid decreased by 1.6%, compared to an increase of 0.4% in the previous fortnight

Table 1 - Percentage change in payroll jobs and wages

	In the fortnight since 22 May 2021	In the month since 8 May 2021	In the year since 6 Jun 2020
Payroll jobs	-0.9%	-0.6%	6.7%
Total wages	-1.6%	-1.2%	6.3%

Estimates of changes throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded index values. They may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded index values.

Graph 1 - Payroll jobs and total wages, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

State and territory

All geographical areas in this release represent the residential address of the jobholder.

The largest changes in states and territories in the fortnight up to the week ending 5 June 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Victoria decreased by 2.1%
- Tasmania decreased by 1.1%
- Australian Capital Territory decreased by 1.1%

Total wages:

- Victoria decreased by 2.8%
- Tasmania decreased by 2.0%

Table 2 - Percentage change by states and territories

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021
New South Wales	-0.6%	2.0%	-1.1%	1.1%
Victoria	-2.1%	0.9%	-2.8%	2.5%
Queensland	-0.4%	2.5%	-1.1%	3.1%
South Australia	-0.4%	3.9%	-1.5%	3.5%
Western Australia	-0.6%	4.9%	-1.0%	0.9%
Tasmania	-1.1%	1.3%	-2.0%	1.3%
Northern Territory	0.0%	6.4%	-0.1%	5.9%
Australian Capital Territory	-1.1%	1.7%	-1.3%	3.9%
Australia	-0.9%	2.3%	-1.6%	2.1%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Map 1 - Percentage change in payroll jobs, in the fortnight to 5 June 2021

Loading map...

Sub-state - payroll jobs

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by sub-state regions, Statistical Area 4 (SA4) and Statistical Area 3 (SA3), are presented as index values through to the week ending 22 May 2021 in Table 5 of the Data downloads. These estimates are only updated in alternate releases.

For more information on the geography used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#glossary\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#glossary).

Sex

In the fortnight up to the week ending 5 June 2021:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by males decreased by 1.0%
- Worked by females decreased by 0.9%

Total wages:

- Payments to males decreased by 1.6%

- Payments to females decreased by 1.5%

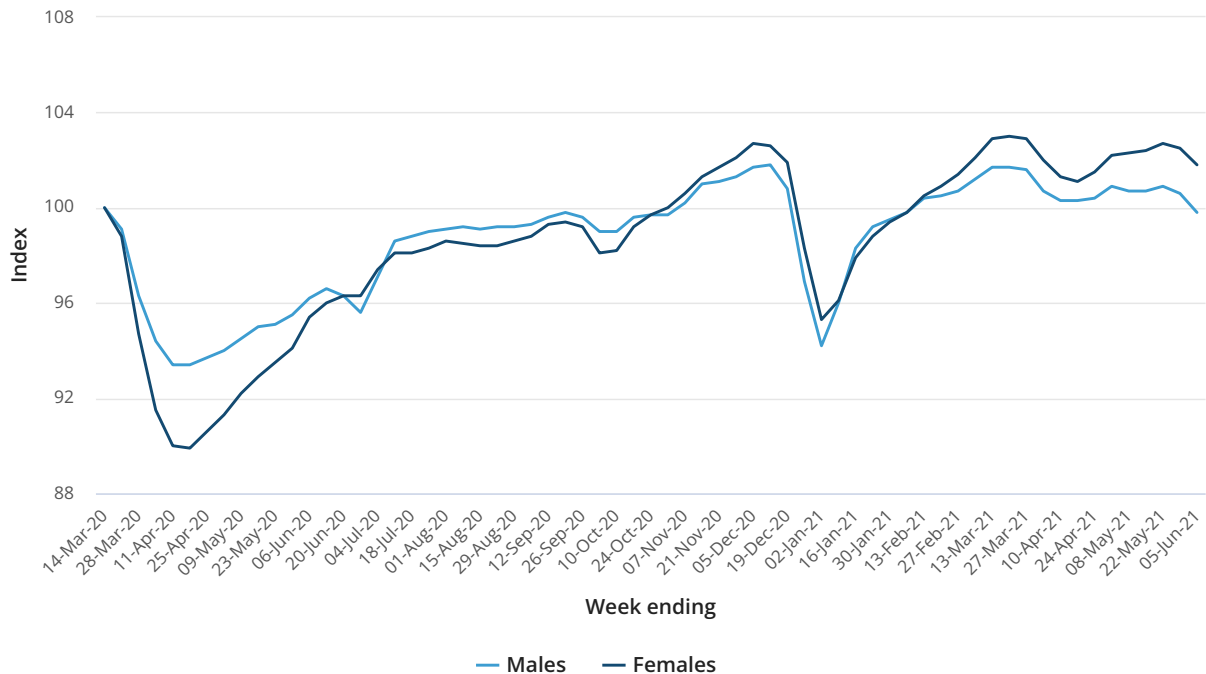
Table 3 - Percentage change by sex (a)

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021
Males	-1.0%	-0.2%	-1.6%	-0.3%
Females	-0.9%	1.8%	-1.5%	4.6%
All persons	-0.9%	2.3%	-1.6%	2.1%

a. Indexes for males and females can move independently from All persons indexes due to the inclusion of persons with 'unknown' sex in the calculation of the All persons index. For more information see the Data components, total and index calculation section in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Graph 2 - Payroll jobs by sex, indexed to the week ending 14 March 2020 (a)



a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Age group

The largest changes in age groups in the fortnight up to the week ending 5 June 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Worked by people aged 15-19 decreased by 2.6%
- Worked by people aged 20-29 decreased by 2.0%

Total wages:

- Payments to people aged 15-19 decreased by 4.6%
- Payments to people aged 20-29 decreased by 2.9%

Table 4 - Percentage change by age group

	Payroll jobs		Total wages	
	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (a)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021
15-19 year olds	-2.6%	0.0%	-4.6%	2.2%
20-29 year olds	-2.0%	0.0%	-2.9%	2.8%
30-39 year olds	-1.0%	2.4%	-1.7%	2.2%
40-49 year olds	-0.5%	1.9%	-1.3%	-0.4%
50-59 year olds	-0.2%	3.2%	-0.9%	1.8%
60-69 year olds	0.5%	7.5%	-0.4%	8.0%
Aged 70 years and over	0.6%	8.3%	0.0%	13.3%
All persons	-0.9%	2.3%	-1.6%	2.1%

a. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

5 year age groups

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups (presented as index values) up to the week ending 5 June 2021 are available in Table 8 of the Data downloads.

Industry

The largest changes in industries in the fortnight up to the week ending 5 June 2021 were:

Payroll jobs:

- Accommodation and food services decreased by 3.5%
- Agriculture, forestry and fishing decreased by 3.2%

Total wages:

- Accommodation and food services decreased by 7.4%

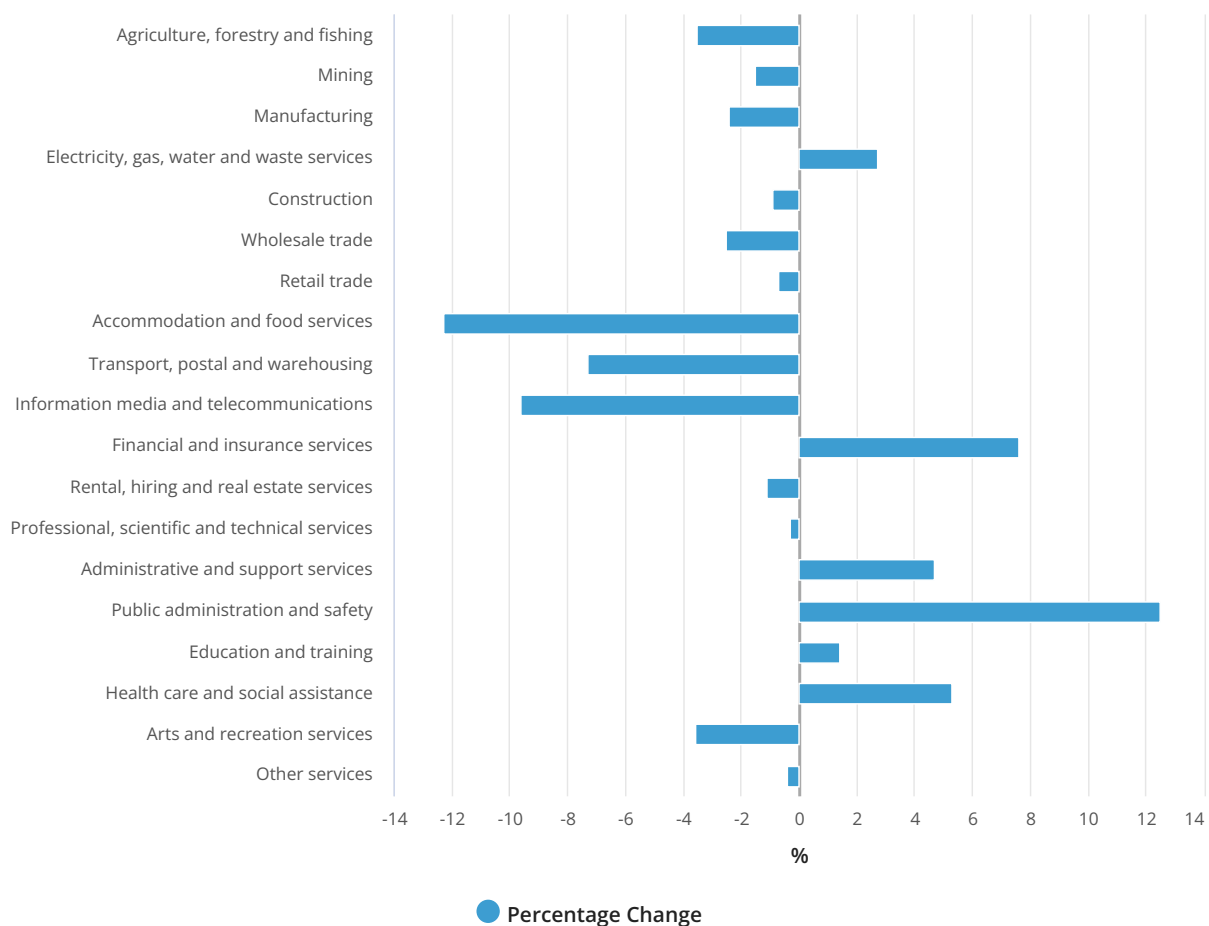
- Financial and insurance services decreased by 4.0%

Table 5 - Percentage change by industry

	Payroll jobs (a)		Total wages (a)	
	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021	Change between 22 May 2021 and 5 Jun 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021
Agriculture, forestry and fishing	-3.2%	-3.5%	-3.1%	2.0%
Mining	-1.7%	-1.5%	0.1%	-20.3%
Manufacturing	-0.1%	-2.4%	-0.1%	-5.2%
Electricity, gas, water and waste services	0.0%	2.7%	-3.5%	-3.7%
Construction	-1.0%	-0.9%	-0.3%	1.4%
Wholesale trade	-1.3%	-2.5%	-0.5%	-5.8%
Retail trade	-0.3%	-0.7%	-1.6%	-0.3%
Accommodation and food services	-3.5%	-12.3%	-7.4%	-10.9%
Transport, postal and warehousing	-0.5%	-7.3%	-0.6%	-6.5%
Information media and telecommunications	-1.7%	-9.6%	-0.7%	-1.4%
Financial and insurance services	-0.5%	7.6%	-4.0%	-1.9%
Rental, hiring and real estate services	-1.6%	-1.1%	-2.5%	2.0%
Professional, scientific and technical services	-1.8%	-0.3%	-3.2%	1.5%
Administrative and support services	-0.7%	4.7%	-2.3%	10.3%
Public administration and safety	0.9%	12.5%	-0.1%	9.5%
Education and training	1.1%	1.4%	1.8%	4.4%
Health care and social assistance	-0.9%	5.3%	-1.1%	6.8%
Arts and recreation services	-2.7%	-3.6%	-2.8%	-2.8%
Other services	-2.0%	-0.4%	-3.3%	5.7%
All industries	-0.9%	2.3%	-1.6%	2.1%

- a. Some industries experience pronounced seasonality in either payroll jobs and wages or both. For more information, refer to the seasonality section of [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).
- b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs and wages. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](#).

Graph 3 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by Industry between 14 March 2020 and 5 June 2021



Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs

Time series estimates of payroll jobs by industry subdivision (presented as index values) up to the week ending 5 June 2021 are available in Table 6 of the Data downloads. These estimates are only updated in alternate releases.

For more information on the industry classifications used in this release, see the [Glossary \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#glossary\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#glossary).

Employment size

Recent movements in payroll jobs by employment size are subject to higher than usual levels of revision (over a longer period) than other estimates. This is particularly the case for small employers (with under 20 employees). Further information is presented on the impact of revisions on the small employers index, in Variation in revisions in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions).

Table 6 - Percentage change in payroll jobs by employment size (a)

	Change between 22 May and 5 Jun 2021 (b)	Change between 14 Mar 2020 and 5 Jun 2021
Under 20 employees	-3.4%	-0.6%
20-199 employees	-1.1%	-0.5%
200 employees and over	0.6%	1.4%
All businesses	-0.9%	2.3%

- a. Indexes for employment size groups can move independently from All businesses indexes due to the inclusion of records with 'unknown' employment size in the calculation of All businesses. For more information see Data components, totals and index calculation in [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions).
- b. Care should be exercised when focusing on the most recent movements in payroll jobs. For more information, please see [Data limitations and revisions \(/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions\)](/methodologies/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia-methodology/week-ending-5-june-2021#data-limitations-and-revisions).

Data downloads

Table 1: National spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[87.7 KB]

Table 2: State and territory spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[423.42 KB]

Table 3: Industry spotlight

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[722.02 KB]

Table 4: Payroll jobs and wages indexes

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[2.63 MB]

Table 5: Sub-state - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are updated in alternate releases. They were last updated on Wednesday 9 June 2021 and will be next updated on Tuesday 6 July 2021.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[230.5 KB]

Table 6: Industry subdivision - Payroll jobs indexes

These estimates are updated in alternate releases. They were updated to the week ending 5 June 2021 on Tuesday 22 June 2021.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[74.93 KB]

Table 7: Employer characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by employment size, including state and territory dimension.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[48.36 KB]

Table 8: Jobholder characteristics - Payroll jobs index

Contains estimates of payroll jobs by 5 year age groups, available in this release since 3 March 2021.

↓ [Download XLSX](#)

[53.61 KB]

All data cubes

↓ [Download ZIP](#)

[3.04 MB]

Changes in this release

The following section was updated in this release:

- Upcoming changes to this release: new section detailing future changes to this release

Upcoming changes to this release

Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia will change to a monthly release schedule, with a final fortnightly release on Tuesday 6 July 2021 (for the week ending 19 June 2021).

The first monthly release, which will continue to include weekly indexes, will be in August 2021 for the week ending 17 July 2021. Data for the intervening weeks (back to 19 June 2021) will also be included.

In addition to the change in frequency, the ABS will also extend the time between the final payroll period and the release date, by around 9 days. This will improve the quality of estimates, through reducing the level of imputation (by more than half) and revisions in the most recent weeks of data.

In addition to quality improvements, the frequency change will also enable an expansion of outputs over the coming months.

Further information on these changes, including the dates of the monthly releases in August and September, will be provided in the 6 July 2021 release.

Previous articles

Previously published articles and information of interest are linked below:

- [Distribution of jobholder and employer characteristics \(/articles/distribution-jobholder-and-employer-characteristics\)](/articles/distribution-jobholder-and-employer-characteristics) provides selected distributions to aid in interpreting estimates produced from STP data
- [A year of COVID-19 through payroll jobs and wages statistics \(/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics\)](/articles/year-covid-19-through-payroll-jobs-and-wages-statistics) reviews payroll jobs and wages in the year since Australia's 100th case of COVID-19
- [Year-end data variability \(/articles/year-end-data-variability\)](/articles/year-end-data-variability) provides some context on seasonality and seasonal variation
- [Secondary jobs \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-17-october-2020#secondary-jobs) provides insight into multiple jobholders
- [Incorporating JobKeeper supported payments into Weekly payroll jobs and wages in Australia \(/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia\)](/statistics/labour/earnings-and-work-hours/weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-australia/week-ending-30-may-2020#incorporating-jobkeeper-supported-back-payments-into-weekly-payroll-jobs-and-wages-in-australia) describes how JobKeeper payments are included

Previous catalogue number

This release previously used catalogue number 6160.0.55.001.

Methodology

[Weekly Payroll Jobs and Wages in Australia methodology, Week ending 5 June 2021](#)